

The Spirit of the State Press—Our Finance.

The Charleston News says: It is no exaggeration to say that, under two Acts plainly intended to authorize an issue of \$2,000,000 of bonds, Gov. Scott and his colleagues may have issued all the twenty or thirty millions which are said to have been printed. There was, indeed, no other limit to the issue than such as might be found in the "honor and integrity" of the financial officers of the State. What that is worth the people know too well. They can see for themselves that the financial prospect grows darker and darker. They must see that, to acknowledge, or pay, claims of the character of those which are attempted to be thrust upon them, would be to connive at fraud and set a premium on successful knavery. They must see that there is only one course to pursue, whatever the cost, viz: to refuse to recognize, or pay, any claim which is not proved to be legal, and to stop the supplies. To withhold the taxes is to hold the ring for at least two months in the jaws of ruin.

The Charleston Courier says: There is but one honest path which is open before us. That path leads to prosperity, and is to be found in the repudiation of those debts which Scott and his administration have fraudulently contracted. Governor Scott knows this, and he, therefore, wishes to put off the evil day until his term of office has expired. If he can collect money easily, he expects to postpone the whirlwind which must sweep away his corrupt administration, but, fortunately for our people, he will not be able to succeed in his designs unless we should prove false to ourselves, and pay taxes to be applied to unlawful purposes at the bidding of Governor Robert K. Scott. We need but watch and wait, refuse to pay taxes until they can be properly and legally collected, and repudiate the dishonest debt, and the day will not be far distant when the State, having freed itself from the unlawful debt which Scott has attempted to contract, will begin anew a career of prosperity, which will not be impeded by corrupt officials eager to sacrifice the commonwealth for their own personal gain.

The Marion Crescent says: What is to be done? What can be done? These are the questions we are to consider. And we have very little time to think about it. Already the tax gatherer's notice is out and the few dollars which a barren crop year has given us must go to feed the cornstalks in charge of our Treasury. We are called on to send more money to fill the pockets of these thieves who now confess to almost double the debt they reported one by the State in May last! We are to entrust our money to those who have increased our debt by millions, while taxing us four times the amount we paid when our property was ten times more valuable than now. Will we do it? For our own part we are ready for any measure which will relieve the people. It seems like madness to entrust money to the custody of those who, by confession, are convicted of theft and fraud. Let us ponder the matter. There must be a way to defeat this monstrous wrong.

The Yorkville Enquirer says: THE PROPER REMEDY.—We regret to perceive that the Charleston Courier, referring to the alleged corruption of our State officials in regard to the bonded debt, advocates out-and-out repudiation as a relief from our pending ills; and that the News, dwelling upon the same subject, advises the people to refuse to pay the State and County taxes now falling due, until a trustworthy exhibit is made of the entire liabilities of the State, and until, furthermore, satisfactory guarantees are given that the moneys of the people will, hereafter, be honorably spent.

The wisdom of either of these plans is extremely doubtful. If Governor Scott, Niles G. Parker, Dr. Neagle and others, who are charged with perpetrating these alleged frauds, are guilty of the charges, let them be brought to the bar of justice in a legal manner, and there be made to answer for their misdeeds. Our State officials are amenable to the people for their acts, and the people have it in their power to hold them to a strict accountability for the faithful performance of their duties.

We have had the temerity on former occasions to advance the old fogy and somewhat obsolete doctrine that two wrongs do not make a right, and that it is better for an outraged people to seek redress in their grievances in a legal manner; and we think subsequent developments of quite a recent date prove the correctness of the policy we indicated. We suggest that some course in the present instance, let us ignore the idea of repudiating legal obligations, and let the people pay their taxes as they become due, and having discharged our duties properly, if our public officers are remiss in theirs, let them be brought to condign punishment in a legal manner.

The Marion Star says: REPERCUSSION.—The outside of our paper will explain to the uninitiated the frauds of the Radical ring. If the report first circulated, we believe, by the New York World, be true, then we say repudiate every cent of the vast debt incurred by the present administration. We don't propose to let men steal both at home and abroad. One place at a time, gentlemen.

The tax payers of South Carolina stand pledged to pay \$9,000,000, but no more. If \$20,000,000 be added, then we say repudiate. We favor payment of all honest debts, but we don't agree to let Kingston, Ten Hurley & Co., be our bankers with themselves as cashiers.

To all things there are limits. South Carolina may be, in one sense of the word, conquered; but her people are not exactly fools or slaves. They don't intend both to be tyrannized over by the General Government and to be robbed by the State officials.

It seems that, politically, we have little hope, and, financially, we will have less, if we suffer our credit to be tossed about in Wall street and enjoyed in Columbia.

The Winnsboro News says: A fraudulent issue of State bonds has been proved beyond a doubt, and there is but one remedy left to the people, and that is to express their determination, in the ruins of government are resorted to their hands, to repudiate the

entire debt of the State that has accumulated since the inception of Governor Scott's administration. That sensible and far sighted journal, the Charleston Courier, deserves the credit of having first brought this idea to the notice of the public, and has developed it so lucidly and forcibly that, as a defensive act, it will commend itself everywhere as eminently wise and opportune.

We suggest that the tax paying citizens of every County in the State hold public meetings at their respective Court Houses, and give the subject the consideration that it surely deserves. If the proposition proves acceptable, let delegates be appointed to a State Convention, and the voice of the entire people be heard, and heralded abroad in condemnation of the thieves and plunderers who rule us, and at the same time let the action of that body be so plain and unmistakable that it will effectually restrain the corruptions and abuses that afflict us on all sides.

This matter is of so serious a nature that we hope to see it thoroughly ventilated by the State press, and action taken upon it at no distant day.

The Kingstree (Williamsburg) Star says:

The cry of repudiation has been raised by members of both political parties in this State. The Democrats, so far as it relates to Governor Scott's administration, and the Radicals, go for a clean breast of the whole State debt. Plain negro members of the Legislature have decided in caucus on this policy. Governor Scott says the taxes must come speedily, and repudiates, in a proclamation in our paper to-day, the pledge which he made to the Tax-payers' Convention last spring, that he would not enforce the collection of taxes before March, 1872. These are stirring times. The vultures at our pockets and the bayonets at our backs, we are in a wretched condition.

The Barnwell Sentinel says: Does any man who has a particle of patriotism left, who has the least sense of justice remaining, think of paying the debts incurred by this corrupt State Government in Columbia? Are we so mean and low spirited as to tax ourselves, to make these thieves and scoundrels rich? No! ten thousand times, no! Let the miserable speculators in Wall street, who bought those bonds, with their eyes open, at a great depreciation, who knew they were stolen from a poverty stricken and suffering people, let them be the sufferers. We do not believe there is an honest man, Democrat or Republican, white or black, in old South Carolina, who will not say, emphatically, repudiate! repudiate! And honest men the world over will sustain us.

The Finances of the State.

The New York World, of November 11, says: GONE TO POT.—The great reconstructed Republican hierarchy of South Carolina is gone to pot; the secret of Mr. Grant's martial law is out; all that has been said about Governor Scott's colossal over issues of bonds is but tarts and cheese-cakes to that which is to come. Our news columns this morning present a glad and yet sorrowful collection of rumors of coming events in the detection of a fraud greater than Tammany's, the downfall of an operator mightier than Tweed. One enormously rich carpet-bagger is now set down as ruined; a South Carolina national bank has been obliged to suspend; failures in Wall street among carpet bag bond financiers are imminent; if not already accomplished facts. To end as we have begun the first lesson, the great reconstructed Republican hierarchy of South Carolina is gone to pot. Governor Scott was one of pauper-General Howard's bureau men, that "Christian soldier" is "in" with Mr. Grant, and hence the martial law business in South Carolina. The financial explosion was apprehended, and the bayonet was to have stamped exposure out. Happily we have been able to speak, and from our intimation of a poor \$16,000,000 over-issue, upon the 30th of this month, the real figures have day by day been coming out, until now at least \$28,580,000 are known to have been printed; and under fear of still further developments the towering fabric of carpet bag finance totters to its fall. Let no man who has read of Tammany fail to read of reconstructed South Carolina; let none who have followed Tweed to fail to see how Tweed dwindles to a pigmy before Scott. Since "rings" are in order, let the story of a greater than the new State House spittoon and window-lade ring find careful attention. Our news columns will be found to tell the tale. In this part of our issue let us touch on a few deductions from the facts.

The World text reviews its financial exposures in their order, and calls attention to Governor Scott's flight from New York to escape Wall street's demand for explanations as to his financing. Alluding to Governor Scott's denial of the World's statements, the World says:

"We would be happy to know what denial this is which he repeats, having no knowledge of any denial to be repeated. The charge was over issue. In his letter to Senator Scott he said the debt in September was \$9,000,000. In his card, published in this paper, he admitted that \$13,580,000 had been issued. Is not this an over-issue? It may be said not an over-issue of \$20,000,000. Certainly not, but there are \$4,000,000 over issue, and the rest is not hard to find in the same card, admitting an issue of \$13,580,000. He admits a preparation of \$28,580,000, or that \$15,000,000 in bonds and stocks were still on hand. Why on hand, if not with intent to issue? No man prints even a mere hand bill, and much less an expensive engraved bond, to throw away. There have been printed \$28,580,000 against a debt of but \$9,000,000. Here is an excess of \$19,000,000—quite near enough to \$20,000,000 to establish the charge. Of these \$28,580,000 there are \$3,500,000 in sterling bonds. There were \$6,000,000 of these authorized, despite even credit-broker Whitmore's protest. So that, if not checked, Governor Scott might have gone on to swell his printed \$28,580,000 into \$31,080,000. Truly in this greater than Tammany fraud deep speaks out deep, and the end is not yet."

The New York Sun well remarks that one of the repulsive features of President Grant's more recent career is his pecuniary meanness. He not only takes presents and increases his large fortune in that manner, but he is very mean. Here for instance, is his son, who has just been educated at West Point at the public cost, and who holds a commission as an officer of the army. First, the young man has a leave of absence to go into the service of a railroad company, drawing his pay as an officer and his salary as an engineer at the same time. Now he is going to Europe; but his father does not pay the bills, as other men do when their sons travel abroad. The traveling expenses of this young man are to be paid by the people of the United States. He is ordered for sham duty in Europe, and this suffices to secure full pay for him; just as though he was really in service here at home. This is not only an offensive proceeding because it is bestowing a special favor upon the President and his son, at the expense of the people, but it is also exceedingly mean. In fact, it amounts to obtaining money under false pretences, and to taking what belongs to other people.

The Columbia Phoenix.

We notice, with much pleasure, the enlargement and improvement of this paper. On the 19th inst., it came out a handsome twenty-eight column daily—in size and ability, reflecting, creditably, the character and sentiment of the intelligent, high-toned masses of the State from the capital. In this advance step, Col. J. P. THOMAS becomes the regular associate of Mr. JULIAN A. SELBY, as chief editor, and will henceforth labor actively in that connection. Thus equipped, the Phoenix must become a power in the State—and for good.

Correspondence.

COLUMBIA, S. C., Nov. 17, 1871. General M. C. Butler, late Chairman of Committee of Eleven, Tax Payers' Convention.

THE WATCHMAN

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 22.

A. A. GILBERT.....EDITOR

Our State Finances.

The New York and South Carolina press, for some time past, has teemed with statement and discussion of our State finances. All at once it seems to have been discovered that the State debt, burdensome and ruinous as it was shown to be at the time of the Tax Payers' Convention, has now been increased to enormous proportions. To such an extent, in fact, that the Charleston Courier, one of the most temperate and well-balanced papers of the State cries out for repudiation, whilst the News, of the same city, advises that the taxes be withheld, and the Winnsboro News suggests that public meetings be called in each county of the State to consider the alarming state of affairs, and that a State Convention be held. And yet again the Phoenix urges that we "go to the courts, for an injunction restraining the Legislature from further bond issues, until we have indemnity and explanation for the past, and security for the future," citing, in fortification of this position, the example of Judge Barnard of New York, who interposed the power of the law to overthrow the Tammany thieves.

There seems to be but little doubt that a wholesale swindle upon the State has recently been added to the heavy peculations of the past. That there has been large increase of bonds, Scott himself vaguely admits, and in fact, the extraordinary tumble of South Carolina securities in Wall Street, fully proves. That this increase, too, has been made in fraud, there seems to be as little doubt. Of its actual amount there seems to be some doubt—\$10,000,000 being now stated as the minimum and \$30,000,000 the maximum of the State debt.

The remedies above cited seem all to be plausible and practicable enough, and that such suggestions should appear in the public prints at a time like this, are natural enough, but we feel that it matters but little to the honest portion of the people of the State whether the State debt at this time be ten or one hundred millions, and that about the best thing we can do is to let the machine run. Experience for two or three years past, has demonstrated the fact, that the greater the outcry against the plan, outrage and corruption of the State Government, the more "aid and comfort," it has secured from the powers at Washington, and, consequently, the greater has been its strength and vitality. Since the Tax-Payers' Convention there has been a lull, and during that time this heavy stealing has been going on. Keep quiet and let them steal. Does it not appear, as clear as noon-day, that all these colossal amounts—these millions upon millions which these light fluted gentry handle, are not now raised from the pockets of the people of South Carolina, and that, if they are allowed to go on, and increase, that they cannot and never will be raised by the people of the State? But that upon those North, who, either from interest or sympathy, advance these immense sums, must fall the loss? See how handsomely the thing already works itself. It gets out in New York that there has been a large and fraudulent increase of the bonds of the State. There comes a tumble at once, and we have rumors of panic and swamping among the South Carolina Radical-Ring bond holders there. Upon them the brunt of the matter falls, because from their pockets has come the millions which, for the time, made this worthless paper good. The money drawn from the pockets of the people by exorbitant and oppressive taxation, large in amount as it is, is but as a drop in the bucket, and serves only to create a little scramble, once or twice a year, when the Legislature meets, among the hangers on at home.

Keep quiet, then; and as long as Scott & Co., can induce Northern money men to advance on their paper, let the work go on. It will be the fool and his money—"soon parted." An outcry about the matter checks proceeds—both the "ring" and their avowed backers become more careful; whilst, as we said before, political strength is imparted. We repeat, let the machine run without interference on our part, and it will but the sooner run itself out.

Grant's Pecuniary Meanness.

The New York Sun well remarks that one of the repulsive features of President Grant's more recent career is his pecuniary meanness. He not only takes presents and increases his large fortune in that manner, but he is very mean. Here for instance, is his son, who has just been educated at West Point at the public cost, and who holds a commission as an officer of the army. First, the young man has a leave of absence to go into the service of a railroad company, drawing his pay as an officer and his salary as an engineer at the same time. Now he is going to Europe; but his father does not pay the bills, as other men do when their sons travel abroad. The traveling expenses of this young man are to be paid by the people of the United States. He is ordered for sham duty in Europe, and this suffices to secure full pay for him; just as though he was really in service here at home. This is not only an offensive proceeding because it is bestowing a special favor upon the President and his son, at the expense of the people, but it is also exceedingly mean. In fact, it amounts to obtaining money under false pretences, and to taking what belongs to other people.

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SIR: You have, doubtless, observed the denial of the promise made by Governor Scott to the late Tax-Payers' Convention, in reference to the postponement of the collection of the taxes of the State. Be pleased to give the public your reply to his said denial. I am, yours, respectfully,

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"Ladies' Monumental Association." A meeting of "The Ladies' Monumental Association of Sumter District," is most urgently requested at Solomon's Hall, Friday, December 1st, 1871, at 12 o'clock, M., when a design for the Monument will be selected, and other matters of consequence submitted to the Association. By order MRS. O. H. MOSES, President.

RICHARD D. LEE, Secretary.

COMMERCIAL. SUMMER MARKET, NOVEMBER 21. COTTON. Favorable advices has toned up the market. Sales 240 Bales at 12 to 16 1/2. SHIPMENTS AS FOLLOWS. New York 88, Charleston 125, Baltimore 59, Wilmington Total 272 bales. This is 47 bales less than was shipped previous week and is the smallest shipment made since September 20. The special rates of freight on Cotton are only in force at Sumter, Manchester and Kingsville. BACON—C. R. Sides, 12 @ 90c; Sides, 10 @ 90c. LARD—15 @ 16 1/2. FLOUR—per 55 lb. \$3.00 @ \$3.10. COFFEE—Lara, 40 @ 45; Lagayra, 35; Rio, 30. SALT—\$2.25 @ 25. SUGAR—P. R. 12 1/2; C. 15; B. 16; A. 16 1/2. CORN—\$1.20 @ \$1.25. GOSHEN BUTTER—25 @ 40. HAGGING—Various Brands, 25 @ 30. LIVERPOOL—Cotton, 9 1/2. NEW YORK—Cotton, 18 1/2. Gold, 119 1/2. BALTIMORE—Cotton, 18 1/2. CHARLESTON—Cotton, 17 1/2. WILMINGTON—Cotton, 17 1/2. SPICES—Tea—Sales of 45 casks selected at 64, 48 @ 64 1/2 and 120 @ 64 cents per gallon for Southern ports. ROBIN—Sales of 1,325 bbls at \$4 for Strained, \$4 50 for No. 2, \$5 50 for Low Pale, \$7 10 for \$7 40 for Pale and \$8 for Extra Pale. CACAO Butter—Sales of 410 bbls at \$3.50 for Hard, \$5 25 for Yellow Dip and \$5 35 for Virgin.

MASONIC. THE REGULAR MONTHLY COMMUNICATION OF CLARENS LODGE, NO. 44, A. F. M., will be held on Thursday evening, November 23, 1871, at 7 o'clock. By order of T. V. WALSH, W. M. M. C. WILLIAMS, Secretary. Nov 1.

GRAND MUSICAL. AND. Theatrical Entertainment. THE SUMTER INDEPENDENT BRASS BAND will on Thursday, the 23rd day of November, give another Entertainment at the Court House of this place, for the benefit of their Teacher. The programme which will be issued on day of Entertainment, will be entirely new, rich and varied. Doors open at 7 1/2 p. m. Performance to begin at 8 o'clock. Tickets to be had at the principal Stores, and at the doors of the Entertainment. Admission 40 cents. Children 25 cts. Nov 22-11

REMOVAL! NEW BUSINESS! NEW GOODS! C. F. A. BULTMAN INFORMS HIS CUSTOMERS AND the public generally, that he has removed to the Store lately occupied by Hoyt & Tolson—next to Mason's Jewelry Store, where, in addition to continuing the MANUFACTURE OF BOOTS AND SHOES to order, he will keep a general Assortment of Ready Made Work for gentlemen, ladies, misses and children. His stock has been selected in person, with a view to SUBSTANTIAL WORKMANSHIP AND GOOD MATERIAL, and is entirely HAND MADE, from the best manufacturers of Philadelphia and Baltimore. —Will also keep a Stock of— Leather and Shoe Findings for the trade. A superior quality of CALF SKINS AND LEATHER on hand, with which he is prepared to fill all orders by experienced workmen. TERMS STRICTLY CASH. Nov 22-

Report of the Agricultural Department. WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 18.—The November returns of the Department of Agriculture relative to the condition and yield of the cotton crop indicates a larger product than was expected in October and promise fully to make good the moderate expectations of July and August. There had been no killing frosts up to the date of the reports. In the rich and well cultivated soils of the lower tier of States the plant was as green and vigorous as in summer. In some places the top crops were maturing generally. In the latitude of middle Georgia the squares formed between August 25th and September 25th under favorable circumstances promise to make good cotton. The principal cause of reduction of yield in Texas is drought; in Louisiana drought, insects and black rot; in Mississippi hot weather in the spring, drought in the summer, and isolated sections the caterpillar or boll worm; in Florida, driving winds and floods, which occasioned a nearly total destruction of considerable acres, and the drought has wrought more or less injury in Alabama, Georgia and South Carolina. The yield per acre as indicated by the county estimates is the largest in Arkansas, decreasing in the following order: Texas, Tennessee, Mississippi, Louisiana, North Carolina, Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina and Florida. The more Northern belt of the cotton States shows the least reduction from their usual averages. The tabulation for November are estimates for each county by the total product of the year expressed as per centages of the actual crop of last year; these averages are adjusted with regard to the relative production of the counties reported and give the following result: each State North 80 per cent., South Carolina 68, Georgia 67, Florida 58, Alabama 78, Mississippi 72, Louisiana 65, Texas 68, Arkansas 8, Tennessee 90. A few counties in Virginia, Kentucky and Missouri, make reports of much the same tenor as the returns from North Carolina and Tennessee.

The quality of the fibre is reported good in all sections. Up to the present date a very small proportion of discolored, or trashy cotton, has been gathered. Some attention has been paid to improvement in quality, by the introduction of the Peeler and other improved varieties. Many correspondents note the superiority in yield and comparative exemption from decrease, under careful culture and judicious fertilization.

JUST ARRIVED. Another lot of Fine well-broken young HORSES AND MULES. ELLIS & GRAHAM Nov 1

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GO TO FOLSOM & DeLORME'S EVERYBODY!

Buy Ladies' Beautiful Dress Goods, Buy nice H'd's for 10 cents, Buy Colors of Zephyr, Buy Emb'd Cottons and Linen Flows, Buy Alpaccos, very Low, Buy Beautiful Long Cloths, Buy Corsets and Hosiery, Cheap, Buy Beautiful Shawls, Buy Ladies' & Misses' Lace Collars, Cheap, Buy Ladies' & Misses' Gaiters, Buy Good Spool Cotton at 5 c. a spool, Buy Good Spool Cotton at 1 c. a spool, Buy Bridal Presents, such as Fine Albums, Rosewood Writing Desks, China Netto Caps, &c., &c., Buy nice Candies, all kinds.

Mothers, all of you, Buy an India Rubber Diaper for your Infant.

Great Bargains AT FOLSOM & DeLORME'S Ladies' Store.

Nov 22

A. A. Solomons

Desires to call especial attention to his large, complete and carefully selected stock of

New Goods,

consisting of everything kept in

a first class house. Hying made

a second trip to New York,

purchased a second supply,

which has been

Just Received,

at very Low Figures. He is

now prepared to offer to his

customers the best assortment of

goods ever offered in this mark-

et, and at prices which

DEFY COMPETITION!

All that he asks is an examina-

tion of his stock before buying

elsewhere, and he feels satisfied

of being able to

PLEASE EVERYBODY.

A good supply of

Corn Shellers

on hand. The celebrated New

Style (all Iron) Corn Sheller,

For sale cheap. Apply to

A. A. SOLOMONS,

CORNER MAIN AND LIBERTY STS.

Nov 15

To Planters.

Persons desiring to have their COTTON shipped and held, can make UNUSUALLY FAVORABLE ARRANGEMENTS—WITH—

CHAS. H. MOISE & CO.,

AT

Planters' Warehouse

November 15

SAFE INSURANCE.

THE "LIVERPOOL AND LONDON AND GLOBE INSURANCE COMPANY" has increased its business in the United States, so largely, since the Chicago fire, that the entire loss will be made up in premiums in this country alone, in one year; leaving its immense capital and all its earnings in Europe unimpaired. Persons who desire an absolutely certain security, are invited to give me a call.

CHAS. H. MOISE,

AGENT FOR SUMTER

GENERAL FIRE AND LIFE

INSURANCE AGENCY.

Anthony White, Agent.

CAPITAL REPRESENTED, \$35,000,000.

NORTH BRITISH & MERCANTILE INS. CO., of London & Edinburgh, assets \$10,000,000 Gold.

GERMANIA INS. CO., of New York.

PACIFIC INS. CO., of San Francisco.

GEORGIA HOME INS. CO., of Columbus, Geo.

POLICY HOLDERS' AND TONTINE LIFE OF

SOUTHERN LIFE INS. CO., of Memphis.

CHAS. H. MOISE,

Nov 15

DRAWING POSTPONED

From October 1st, 1871, to January 8 1872,

IN CONSEQUENCE OF THE FEVER IN CHARLESTON, S. C.

\$500,000!

To be Given Away!